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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,767	12/04/2001	Venkatesan Srinivasan	E0358/7003	3017

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EXAMINER
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GREIMEL, JOCELYN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3693

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/010,767

Applicant(s)

SRINIVASAN, VENKATESAN

Examiner

Jocelyn Greimel

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/29/02, 11/12/02</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's application of December 04, 2001, which claims the benefit of 60/251,077 of December 04, 2000. Claims 1-49 are pending in the application and are presented to be examined upon their merits.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. **Claims 1-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lebda et al (US Patent 6,385,594, hereinafter Lebda).** In reference to claims 1, 13, 25-26, 35 and 47-49, Lebda discloses a system, method and apparatus system for syndicating financial obligations, comprising: a process controller that receives information regarding a financial obligation of a first entity that has not been approved by the first entity (col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 3-4; col. 5, lines 21-42; col. 6, lines 51-67). Lebda discloses a syndication module that automatically sends information regarding the financial obligation to prompt a decision from a second entity different from the first entity about assuming at least a portion of the financial obligation (col. 3-4).

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4. In reference to claims 2-4, 14-16, 27-29 and 36-38, discloses the system wherein the syndication module analyzes at least part of the information regarding the financial obligation to select the second entity; wherein the financial obligation is a loan; and wherein the financial obligation includes a loan that has or has not been approved by the first entity (col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 3-4; col. 5, lines 21-42; col. 6, lines 51-67).

5. In reference to claims 5-7, 17-19, 30-34 and 39-43 discloses the system further comprising a process module adapted to determine whether the first entity will accept the financial obligation, and wherein the financial obligation includes a loan, the process module determining that the loan is approved by the first entity after a decision is made for the second entity to assume at least a portion of the financial obligation; further comprising a process module adapted to determine whether the first entity will accept the financial obligation, and wherein the financial obligation is a loan and the first entity is a lender, the process module determining that the first lender will approve the loan after a decision is made for the second entity to assume a risk of at least a portion of the loan; further comprising a first lender process module that processes the information regarding the financial obligation received by the process controller and determines whether the first entity will accept financial obligation and a second lender process module that receives the information from the syndication module and determines if the second entity will accept at least a portion of the financial obligation (col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 3-4; col. 5, lines 21-42; col. 6, lines 51-67).

6. In reference to claims 8-9, 20-22 and 44, discloses the system wherein the first lender process module determines that the first entity will not accept the financial obligation; wherein the first lender process module determines that the first entity will accept only a portion of the financial obligation, and the second lender process module determines that the second entity will accept another portion of the financial obligation; and wherein the process controller receives information regarding a plurality of financial obligations of the first entity, and the syndication module sends information regarding the plurality of financial obligations so that decisions are made for at least one other entity whether to accept a portion of the plurality of financial obligations (col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 3-4; col. 5, lines 21-42; col. 6, lines 51-67).

7. In reference to claims 11-12, 24-25 and 45-46, discloses the system wherein the syndication module selects the second entity based on one of a credit risk posed by the financial obligation, and a geographic parameter related to the financial obligation; and wherein the syndication module is adapted to auction portions of a financial obligation or a portfolio of financial obligations to a plurality of entities (col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 3-4; col. 5, lines 21-42; col. 6, lines 51-67).

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jocelyn Greimel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3734. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

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EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached at (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jocelyn Greimel  
Examiner, Art Unit 3693  
August 16, 2006

  
ELLA COLBERT  
PRIMARY EXAMINER